

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 million American children and adults, an average of 4% in Vermont, have been diagnosed with neuroendocrineimmune disorders (NEIDs); and

WHEREAS, these conditions include chronic fatigue syndrome, (CFS) myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) or myalgic encephalopathy (ME), fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS), chronic or persistent Lyme disease (CLD), Gulf War syndrome/illnesses (GWS/GWI), environmental illnesses (EI) or multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS); and

WHEREAS, these complex illnesses are expressed in a multitude of symptoms affecting multiple body systems and for which there is no scientific understanding or explanation, no medical treatment, and significant loss of patient quality of life; and

WHEREAS, NEIDs strike women, men, and children of all races and ages, and of all socio-economic groups; and

WHEREAS, individuals with these illnesses experience “flu-like symptoms”; sore throat; extreme fatigue; widespread pain in muscles, joints, and ligaments; insomnia; muscle stiffness; migraine headaches; the symptoms of restless leg syndrome; numbness and tingling in extremities; respiratory difficulties; debilitating sensitivities to chemicals in the environment; peripheral neuropathy; sleep disturbances; cognitive impairment of memory and concentration, endocrine system abnormalities; and chronic viral infections and bacterial infections; and

WHEREAS, NEIDs are as disabling as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, end-stage renal failure, and rheumatoid arthritis and are as impairing as multiple sclerosis, AIDS, and chemotherapy cancer treatments; and

WHEREAS, NEIDs are chronic illnesses that can be life-threatening and are increasing at alarmingly epidemic rates, and it often takes an average of 3 to 7 years to receive a diagnosis for any of these disorders because medical professionals frequently do not receive adequate training for diagnosis of NEIDs; and

WHEREAS, P.A.N.D.O.R.A. – Patient Alliance for Neuroendocrineimmune Disorders Organization for Research & Advocacy, Inc. – is a nonprofit, national charitable organization dedicated to finding a cure for NEIDs and advocating for quality of life for individuals stricken with these illnesses; and

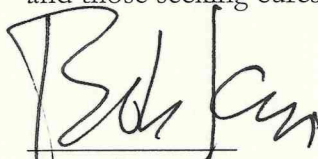
WHEREAS, P.A.N.D.O.R.A. has joined with The Vermont CFIDS Association, also a nonprofit charitable organization and patient organizations worldwide to promote awareness of NEIDs and the need for patient advocacy, to establish healthcare provider NEIDs education programs, to develop and increase accurate diagnostic criteria for these illnesses, to stimulate research that will identify the causes and treatments of these disorders; and

WHEREAS, community knowledge of NEIDs and their impact on patients and their families will promote hope for a better future for people with NEIDs;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bob Kiss, Mayor of the City of Burlington, Vermont hereby proclaims May 12, 2011 as

NEIDs AWARENESS DAY

In the City of Burlington and applaud the efforts of those battling these illnesses and those seeking cures.


Bob Kiss, Mayor

